



Community Development Block Grant Community Investment Fund Grant

Local Government Division

Introduction

Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), Community Investment Fund (CIF) Grants provide eligible communities the opportunity to access funds throughout the year for their high-priority community and economic development projects. It is an attempt to deliver financial and technical assistance in a collaborative way. Technical assistance will be provided to interested communities through the Washington Community Economic Revitalization Team (WA-CERT) scoping process and on-site visits to the communities.

Funds Available

Depending on congressional action, approximately \$4.8 million in grant monies is available for 2003.

Eligibility Guidelines

Eligible applicants are Washington State cities and towns with less than 50,000 in population or counties with less than 200,000 in population that are non-entitlement jurisdictions or are not participants in a U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Urban County Entitlement Consortium.

Projects funded by CIF must also:

- Demonstrate a clear need for grant dollars and fill a funding gap;
- Be ready to proceed;
- Demonstrate at least 51 percent low- and moderate-income benefit;
- Rank in top three on the county's WA-CERT list; and
- Be a CDBG eligible activity.

Priority funding preference is given to applicants participating in the WA-CERT and/or the Rural Enterprise Community programs.

Application Process

- CIF pre-application submitted to CDBG Program after being ranked on the county's WACERT list as one of the top three priorities.
- CIF pre-application is reviewed for eligible activities, low- and moderate-income (LMI) benefit and completeness of the proposal at the time.
- Preliminary scoping of the project takes place to determine if the project is a local priority and readiness to proceed.
- Determination is made whether project requires more technical assistance or if the project is ready to proceed. More technical assistance may include determining other possible funding sources, assistance with workplan development, assistance with project development before funding can be obtained, etc.
- An internal CTED Resource Team reviews the CIF pre-application when the project is ready to proceed.

For More Information

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Application Process -- Continued

- If project is determined to be viable, ready to proceed and CDBG is an appropriate source of funding, the community is invited to submit full application to Community Investment Fund.
- Projects will be funded on a first-come, first-served basis until funds have been fully used.
- Full application will summarize the need, capacity, readiness and results.
- To meet federal requirements, a full application must also contain documentation of LMI benefit, compliance with Citizen Participation Requirements including evidence of a public hearing for the application, resolutions with certification of compliance and a disclosure report.